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THE ASSASSIN NATION PLOT
PART FIVE OF SIX

NOW ON SALE
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the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

THE ASSASSIN REVEALED:
SABRETOOTH!



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DOUBLE DRAGON

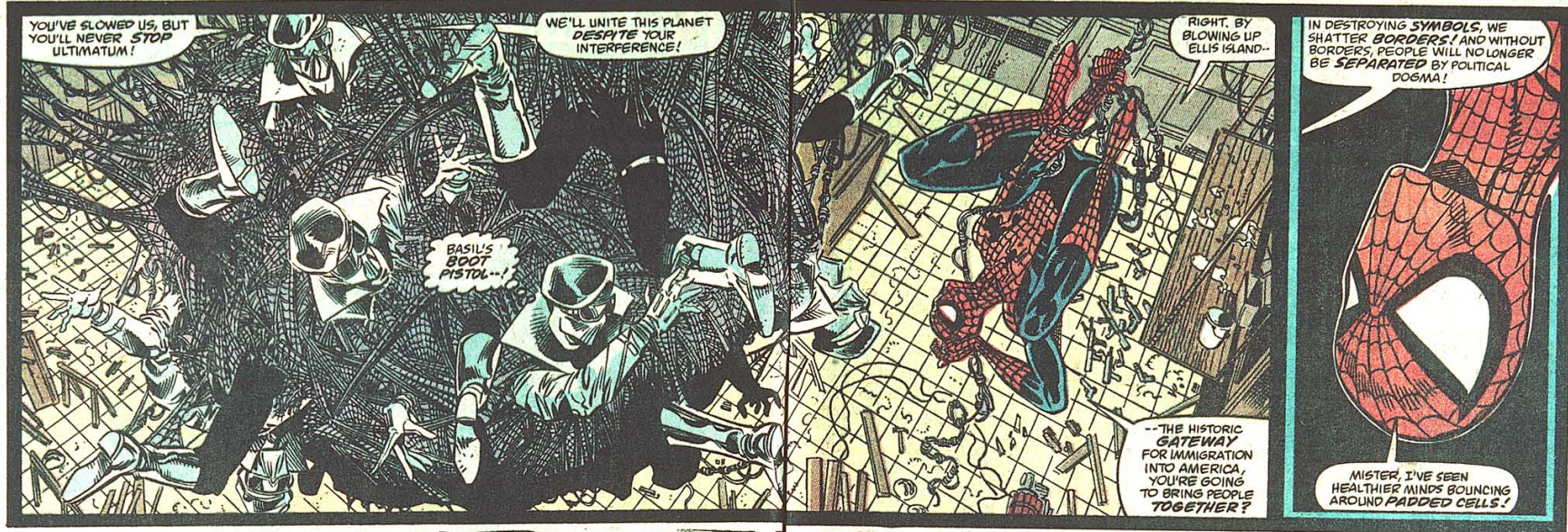
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TIGER ELECTRONICS
INC.™

GUESS WE CAN
CALL THIS A
WRAP... HUH,
GUYS?

DAVID MICHELINIE WRITER ERIK LARSEN PENCILER AL GORDON INKER RICK PARKER LETTERER BOB SHAREN COLORIST JIM SALICRUP EDITOR TOM DeFALCO EDITOR IN CHIEF

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YOU'VE SLOWED US, BUT YOU'LL NEVER STOP ULTIMATUM!

WE'LL UNITE THIS PLANET DESPITE YOUR INTERFERENCE!

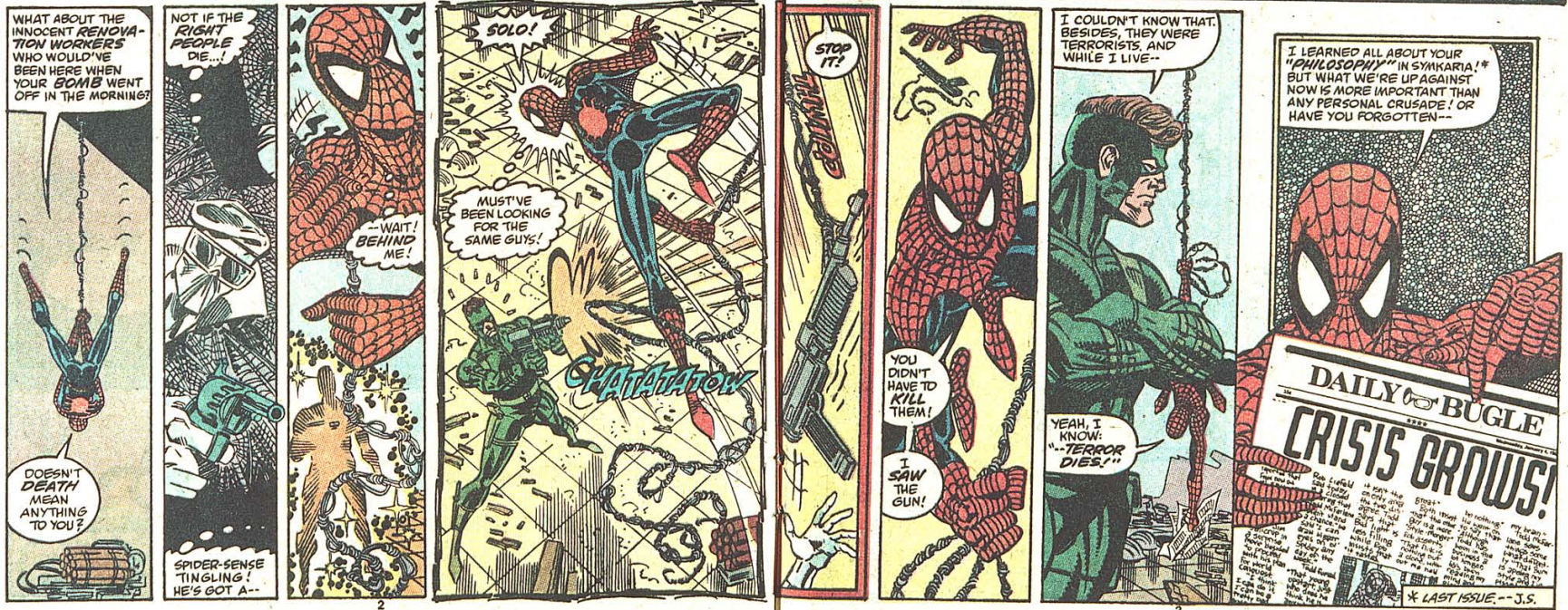
BASIL'S BOOT PISTOL--!

RIGHT BY BLOWING UP ELLIS ISLAND--

IN DESTROYING SYMBOLS, WE SHATTER BORDERS! AND WITHOUT BORDERS, PEOPLE WILL NO LONGER BE SEPARATED BY POLITICAL DOGMA!

--THE HISTORIC GATEWAY FOR IMMIGRATION INTO AMERICA, YOU'RE GOING TO BRING PEOPLE TOGETHER?

MISTER, I'VE SEEN HEALTHIER MINDS BOUNCING AROUND PADDED CELLS!



WHAT ABOUT THE INNOCENT RENOVATION WORKERS WHO WOULD'VE BEEN HERE WHEN YOUR BOMB WENT OFF IN THE MORNING?

NOT IF THE RIGHT PEOPLE DIE...

--WAIT! BEHIND ME!

SOLO!

MUST'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR THE SAME GUYS!

STOP IT!

YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO KILL THEM!

I SAW THE GUN!

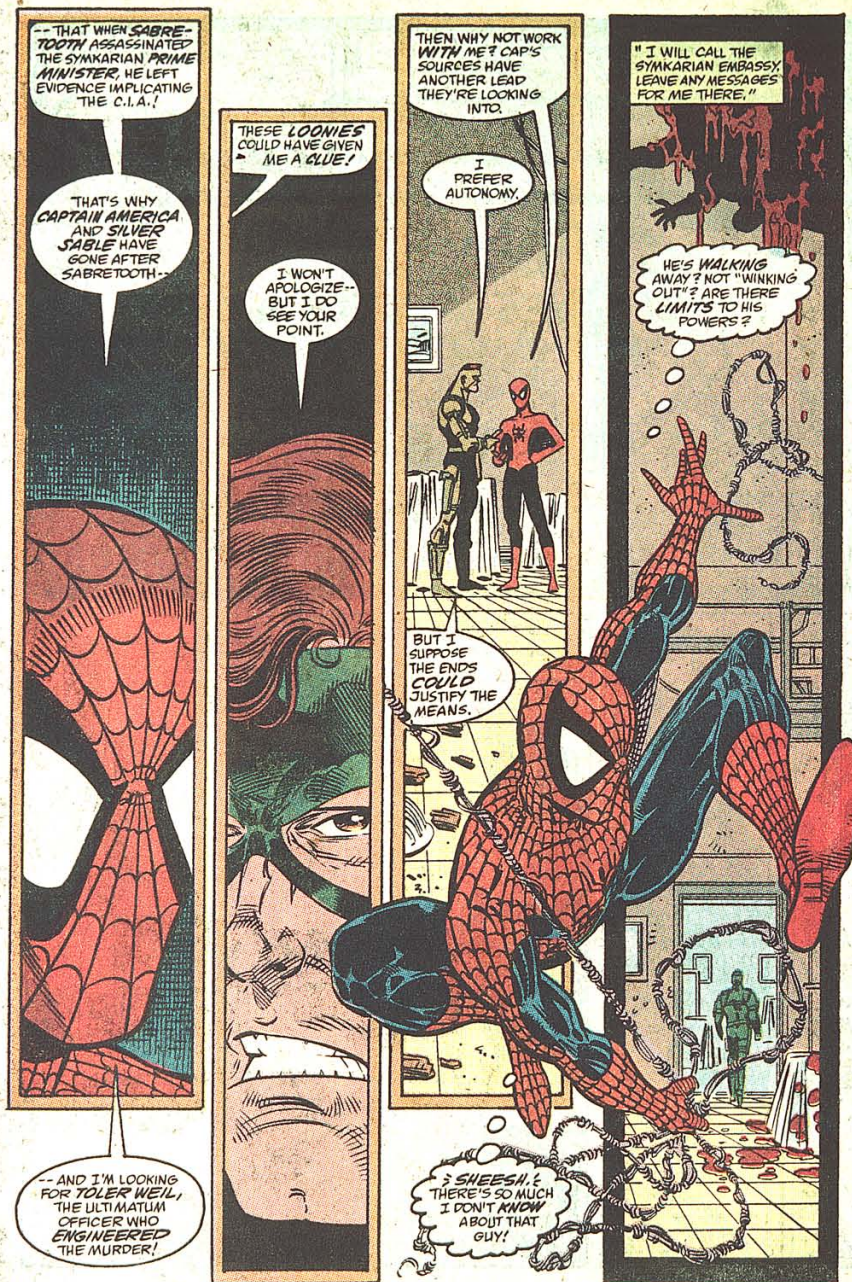
I COULDN'T KNOW THAT. BESIDES, THEY WERE TERRORISTS, AND WHILE I LIVE--

YEAH, I KNOW: "--TERROR DIES."

I LEARNED ALL ABOUT YOUR "PHILOSOPHY" IN SYMVARIA! BUT WHAT WE'RE UP AGAINST NOW IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN ANY PERSONAL CRUSADE! OR HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN--

DAILY BUGLE
CRISIS GROWS!

* LAST ISSUE -- J.S.



GET SET FOR RADICAL ACTION

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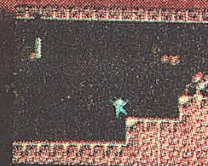


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So get set for radical action in these exciting additions to the Nintendo Entertainment System. From Capcom U.S.A.



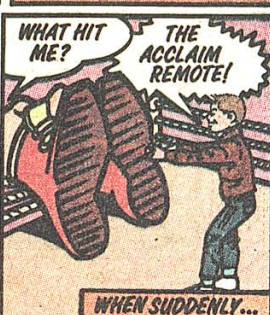
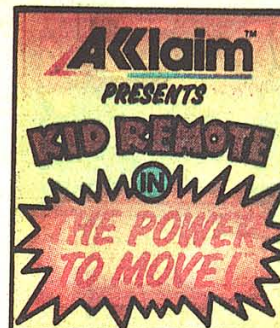
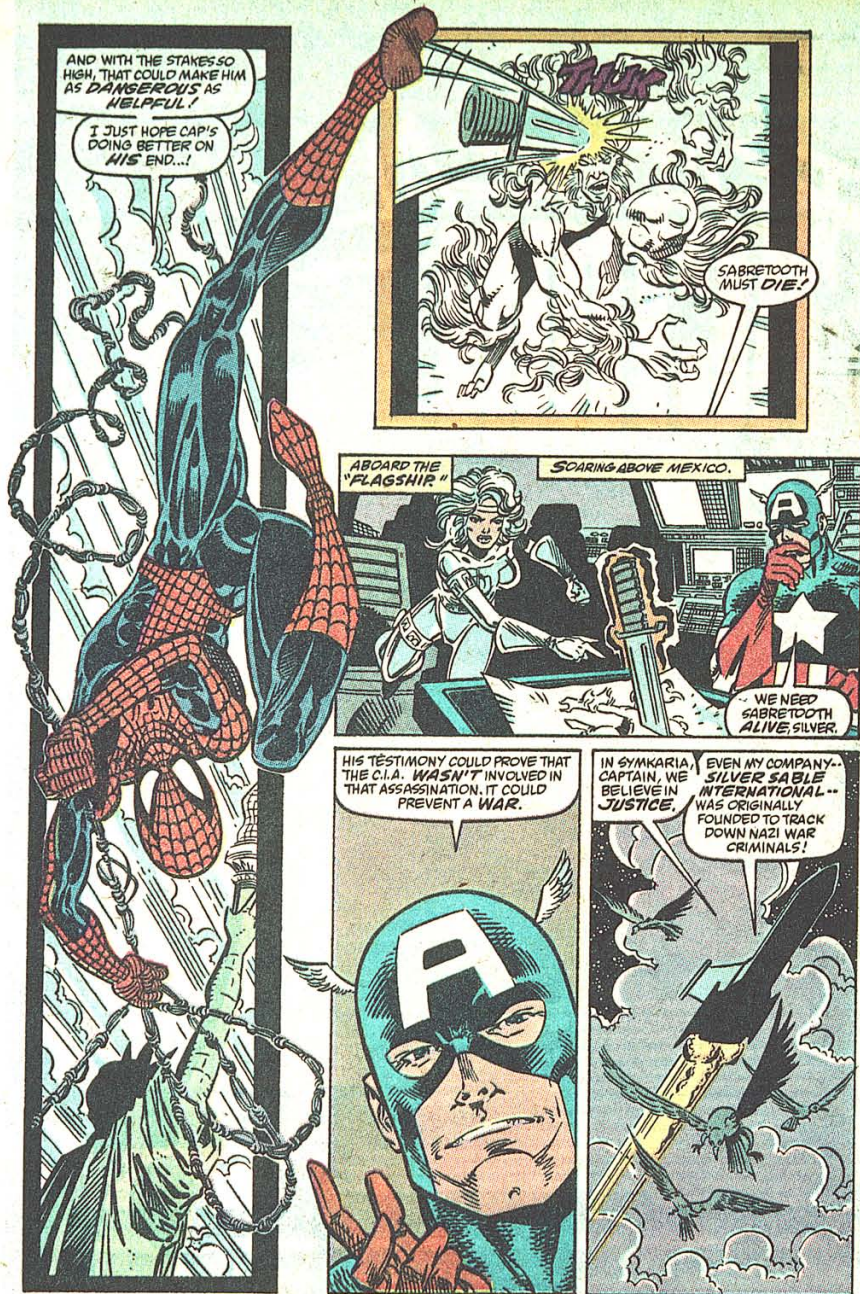
MegaMan 2 Screen Shot



Strider Screen Shot

CAPCOM

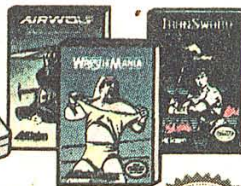
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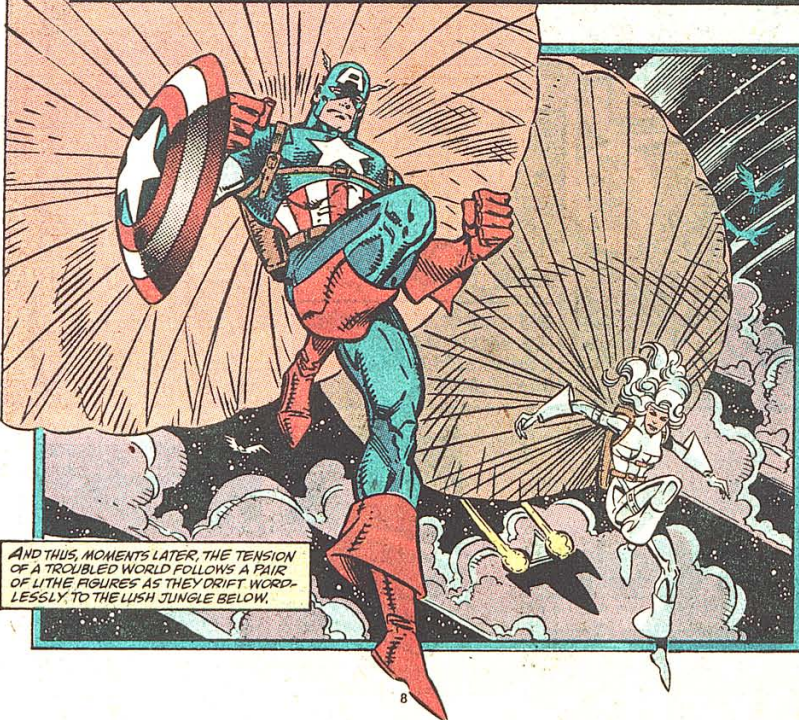
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THERE'S A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN **JUSTICE** AND **RETRIBUTION**, SILVER. WE NEED SABRE-TOOTH'S STATEMENT TO DEFUSE A BAD SITUATION. TO **SAVE LIVES**. THAT'S WHY WE TRACKED HIM HERE TO HIS LATEST FREELANCE OPERATION.

I KNOW, AND I ASSURE YOU--

-- I WILL DO THE RIGHT THING.

WE'RE ALMOST TO THE DROP SITE, CAPTAIN! YOU TWO HAD BETTER GEAR UP!



AND THUS, MOMENTS LATER, THE TENSION OF A TROUBLED WORLD FOLLOWS A PAIR OF LITHE FIGURES AS THEY DRIFT WORDLESSLY TO THE LUSH JUNGLE BELOW.

8



WHERE, IN THE "SECRET" CAMP OF A BAND OF COLD-EYED OUTLAWS...

EII, CARAMBA!

HEEM?!

I'M LOOKING FOR SABRETOOTH. I HEAR YOU RECENTLY AIDED HIM.

WHERE IS HE?

AND ONLY A FOOL WOULD COME HERE ALONE!

I AGREE.



JUST LIKE THAT? FEH!

MAYBE YOU ARE BEES DEAL NORTH OF THE BORDER, CAPTAIN, BUT THEES EES OUR COUNTRY!



WAMP

9

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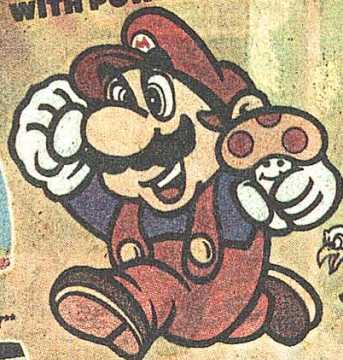
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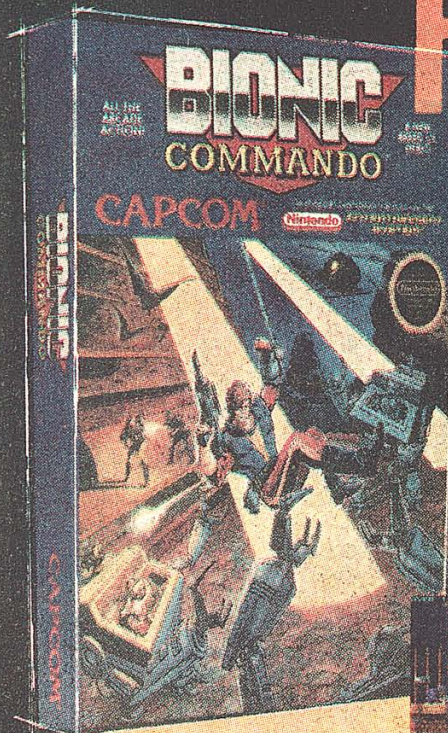
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To the most daring soldiers, this might seem an impossible test, but they've never experienced the power of Bionic Commando!

Screen shot from the Nintendo Entertainment System



CAPCOM

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WHILE SPEAKING OF PERSONAL...

TO THE SNEAKIEST, MOST CONNIVING WITCH ON THE PLANET-- MY WIFE!

OH, PETER, YOU SAY THE SWEETEST THINGS!



BUT I HAVEN'T LANDED THAT ROLL ON "SECRET HOSPITAL" YET. I WAS JUST CALLED BACK FOR A SECOND READING.

BUT YOU'LL GET IT, AND THEN WE'LL CELEBRATE WITH MORE THAN GINGER ALE AND LATE NIGHT TV!

MAYBE WE CAN COMBINE IT WITH A HOUSE-WARMING PARTY WHEN WE MOVE INTO THE NEW LOFT.

WOW, I'D ALMOST FORGOTTEN ABOUT THAT. I WAS ONLY IN SYMKARIA FOR A FEW DAYS, BUT SO MUCH HAS CHANGED. I MEAN--

I KNOW.

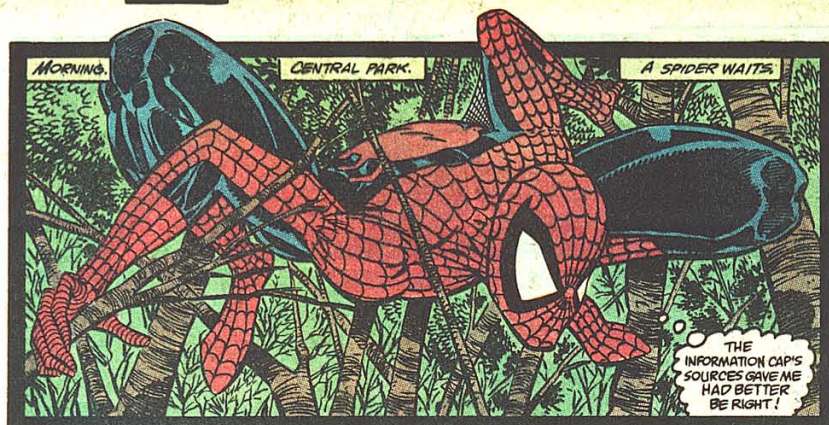
--AFTER WE'RE GONE, THE PALERMO'S WILL BE AUNT MAY'S ONLY TENANTS. BESIDES NATHAN.

THINGS ARE HAPPENING PRETTY FAST.

YEAH...

--HAVE BEEN FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS IN THE SYMKARIAN CRISIS.

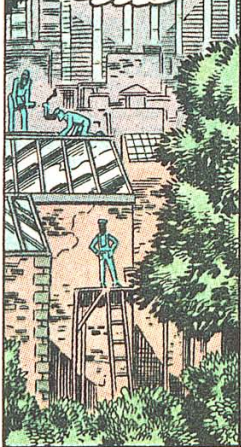
... I KNOW.



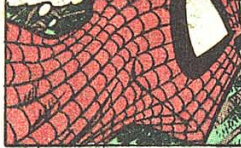
OTHERWISE, ATTACKING THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM--



--ISN'T GOING TO DO WONDERS FOR MY REA? NOW WHERE IS--



--SOLO! GOTTA BE!



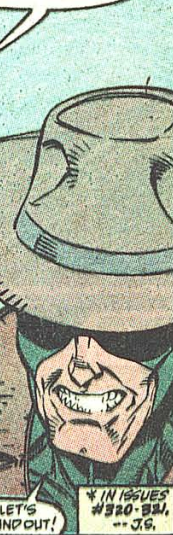
WHO ELSE WOULD WEAR AN OVER-COAT IN THE MIDDLE OF SUMMER?

EXCEPT SOMEONE HIDING ABOUT A ZILLION--



THE REMODELING ON THE MUSEUM IS BEING FUNDED BY THE LIFE FOUNDATION.

THEY WERE GOING TO HIDE THE SYMKARIAN ASSASSIN BEFORE PALADIN AND I BUTTED IN. * THERE'S A CHANCE THEY MAY STILL BE INVOLVED.



LET'S FIND OUT! * IN ISSUES #320-331, --J.G.



WELL, GOOD MORNING TO YOU, TOO!

I GOT YOUR MESSAGE. WHAT'S THE GAME?

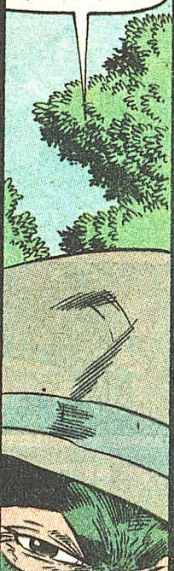


HEY! WE NEED WEIL ALIVE, REMEMBER?

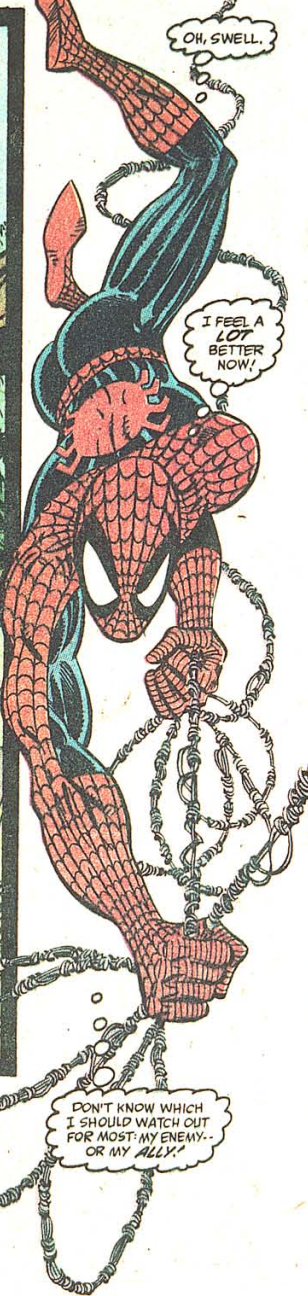
DON'T BE SO EAGER FOR BLOOD!

I ONLY DO WHAT MANY WOULD DO, IF NOT FOR FEAR OF RETALIATION. TERROR'S GREATEST WEAPON IS THAT IF RESISTED, THE RESISTORS COULD BECOME THE NEXT TARGET.

BUT SINCE I HAVE NO COUNTRY, NO POLITICS, NO IDENTITY, THAT LEAVES ME FREE TO STRIKE--



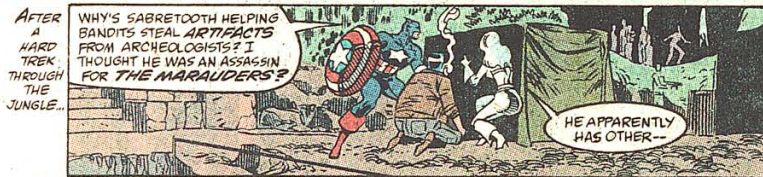
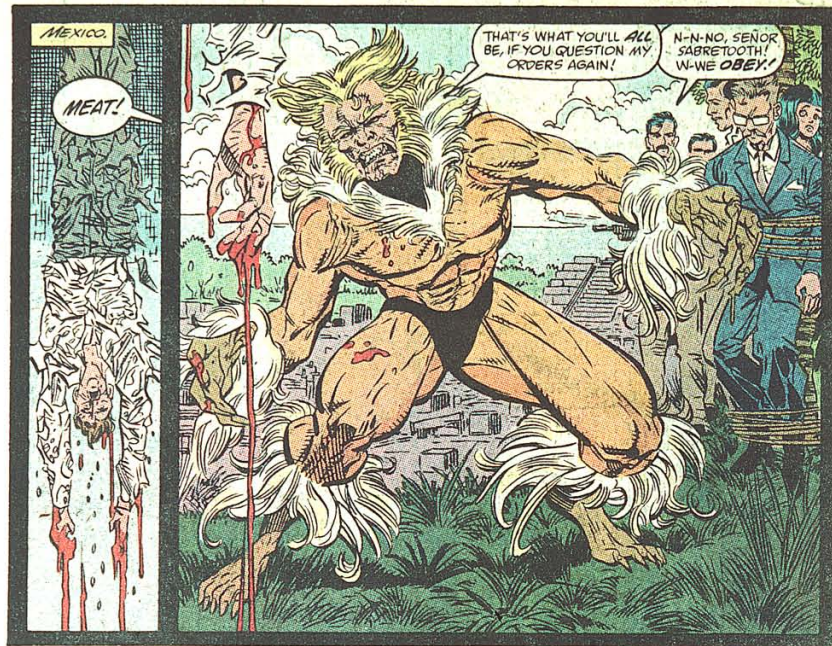
--WITHOUT MERCY.



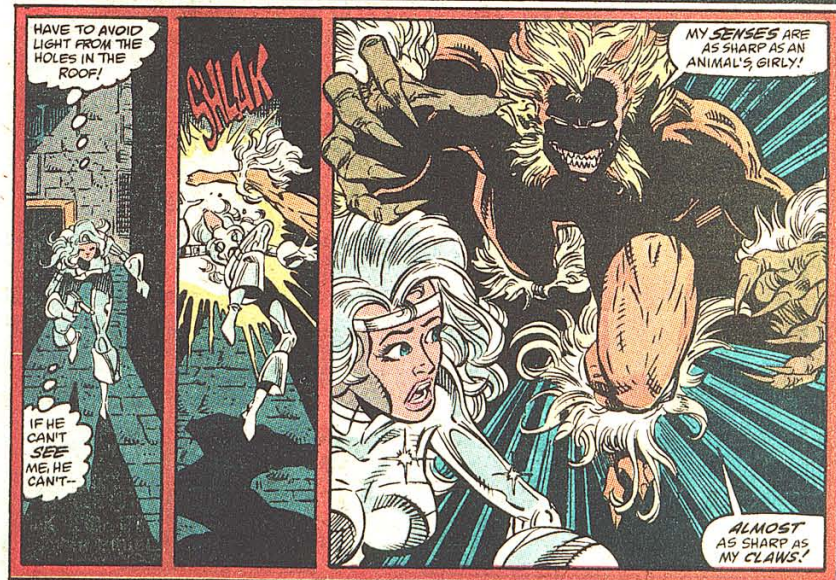
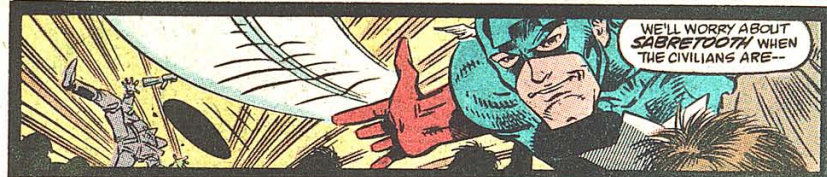
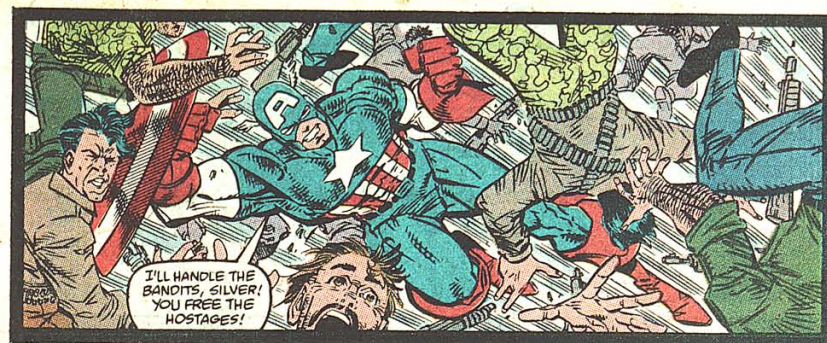
OH, SWEET.

I FEEL A LOT BETTER NOW!

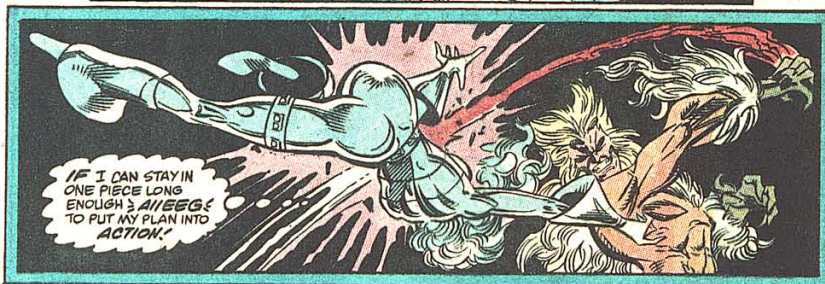
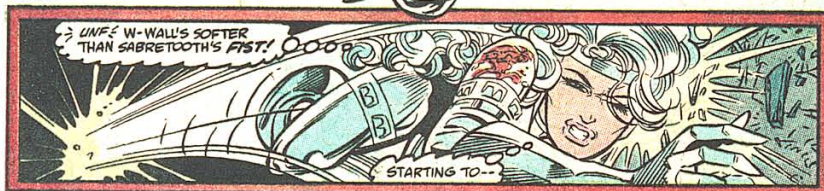
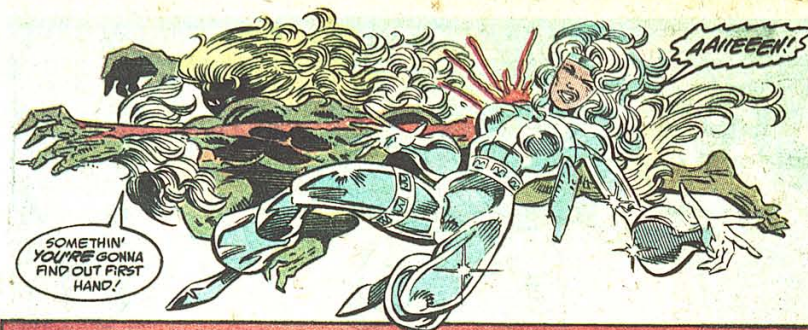
DON'T KNOW WHICH I SHOULD WATCH OUT FOR MOST: MY ENEMY--OR MY ALLY!



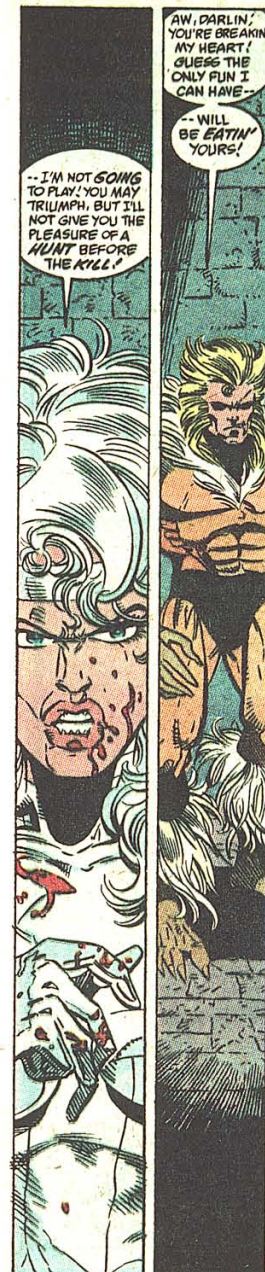
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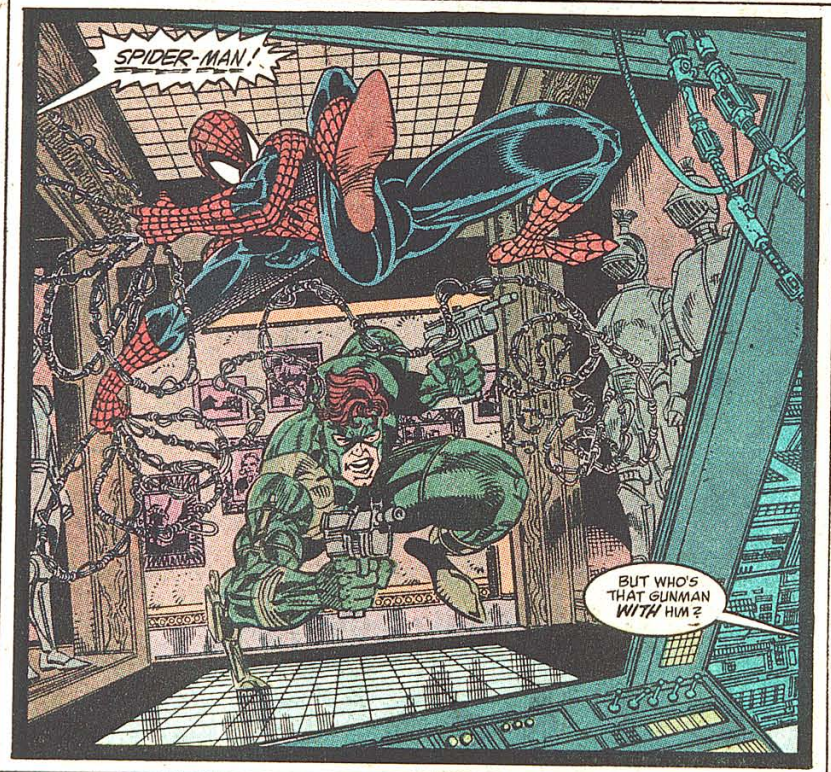
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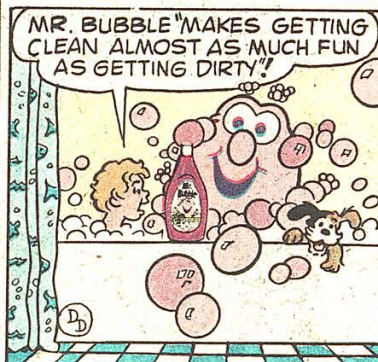
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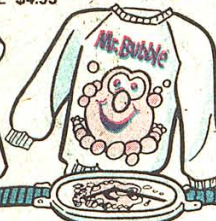
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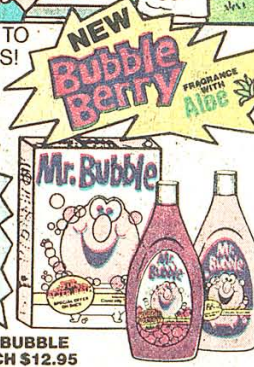
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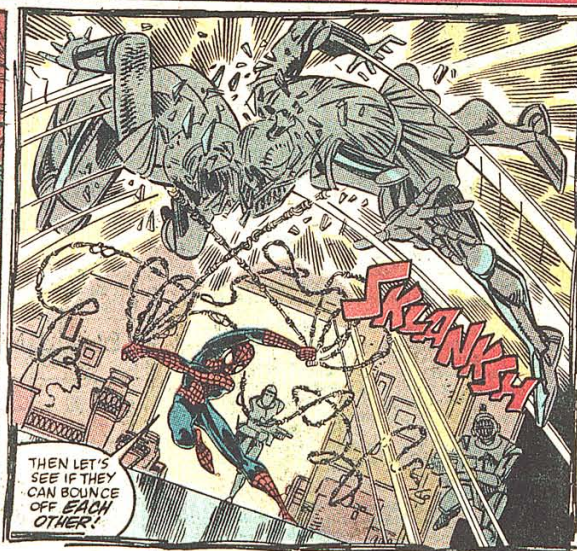
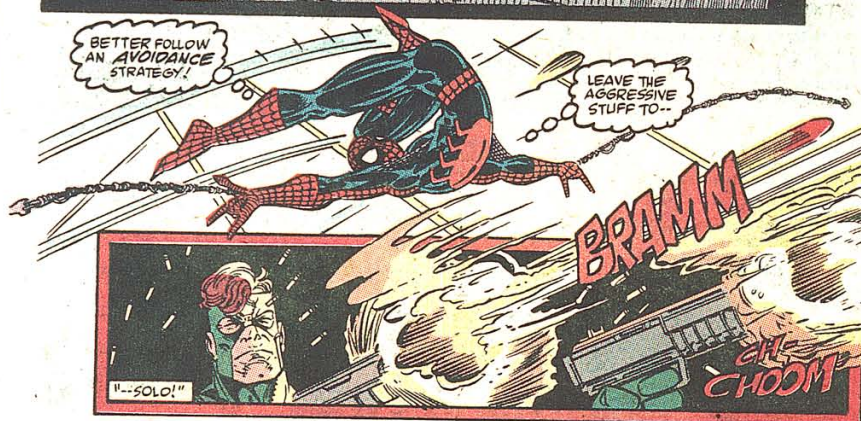


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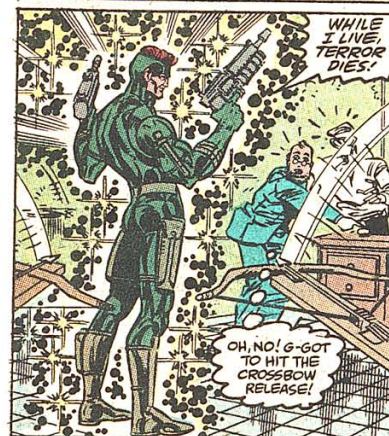
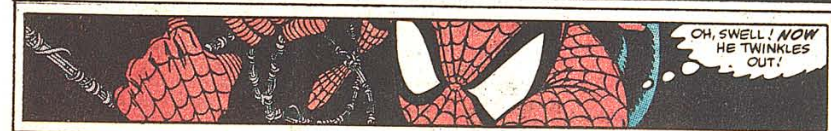
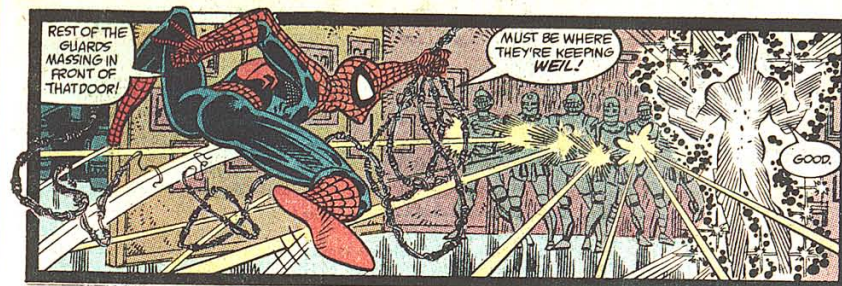
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24



25

Bulpen Bulletins

Stan's Soapbox

Hi True Believers!
 You know, for the past few months I've been hitting a few comic book conventions all over the country (and don't be a wisenheimer and ask me if they hit back!). Now I'd like to share a few thoughts with you, thoughts that occurred to me at those wild and wonderful gatherings.

First of all, if any of you have the idea that comic book conventions are primarily for kids, forget it! The nature and character of the attendees is a never-ending source of pride to me. I mean we're talking young adults, teenagers, college students, professional people, parents of all ages joining in the fun with their youngsters, and assorted literature and art lovers of every race, sex and nationality. Whenever I'm lucky enough to mingle with the great gang of comicbookpersons and their fans, I can't help but think how wonderful it would be if all of life could be like a comic con. Just think--no hassles, no hang ups, no bitterness, bigotry or bull dung. Just a bunch of happy humans, meeting on common ground, sharing a common passion, each finding something in these amazing publications, in the comic books they read and enjoy, something to excite them, to provoke them, to transport them away from their everyday problems, to replace the humdrum elements in their lives with the dazzling color and

Quote of the Month

"I don't care how strong he is--six tons of wheat ought to hold him for a while."

—Captain Marvel
 CAPTAIN MARVEL SPECIAL #1

brilliance of fantasy!

No matter how harried and hapless we may be in our own workaday world, for one brief interval of time, a love for comic books brings us together and allows us to savor a world of imagery and romance, a world that we can share through the miracle of the printed page!

You know something? I love comics!
 Excelsior!

Stan Lee

ITEM: Friday, April 14 was the date of the second annual Mighty Marvel T-shirt Swapathon, and what a spectacle it was! Emceed by Fabulous Fabian Nicieza, the Swapathon pitted our ever-competitive Marvel staffers against each other in grueling, winner-take-T-shirt contests.

Memorable moments included Assistant Editor *Renee Witterstaetter's* heartfelt rendition of "I'm a Little Teapot," Reproduction Department Administrator *Francine Burke's* convincing impression of Editor in Chief *Tom DeFalco's*

Submissions Editor *Evan Skolnick* knocking an apple off Executive Editor *Mark Gruenwald's* head with a rubber frisbee, Editor *Howard Mackie's* bellybutton lint, bullpener *Harry Eisenstein's* wailing imitation of Traffic Manager *Virginia Romita*, and Assistant Editor *Jim DiGiovanna's* brutal stare-down of fellow Assistant Editor *Sara Tuschinsky!*

Fun—as well as pizza—was had by all who participated. Sure, there were a few embarrassing moments...but at least no one videotaped the bizarre proceedings. As far as we know, anyway...

ITEM: Crafty *Carl Potts*, editor of such titles as *THE PUNISHER*, *ALPHA FLIGHT* and *POWER PACK*, gave up his days of bachelorhood April 22, and married Cunniff *Cathleen Meloni* in Westchester, New York. Even as we speak the blissful newlyweds are honeymooning in our fiftieth state, Hawaii. Congrats to Carl and Cathy from Marvelites everywhere!

Margaret Clark



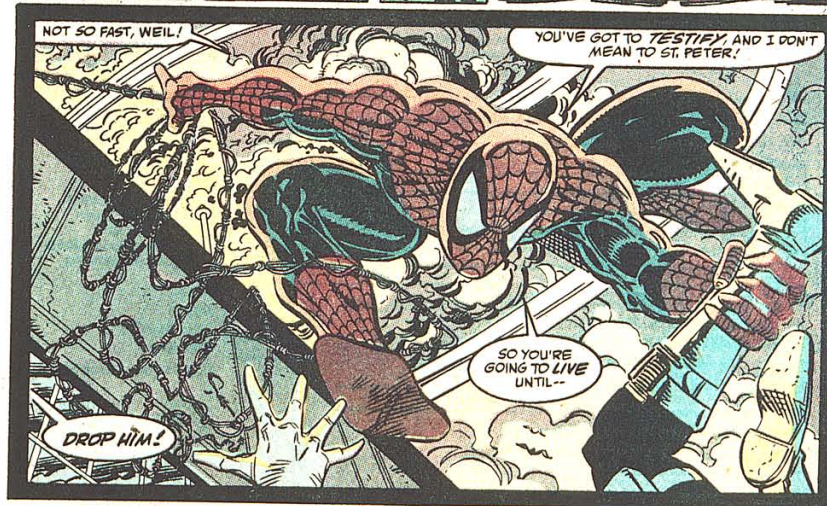
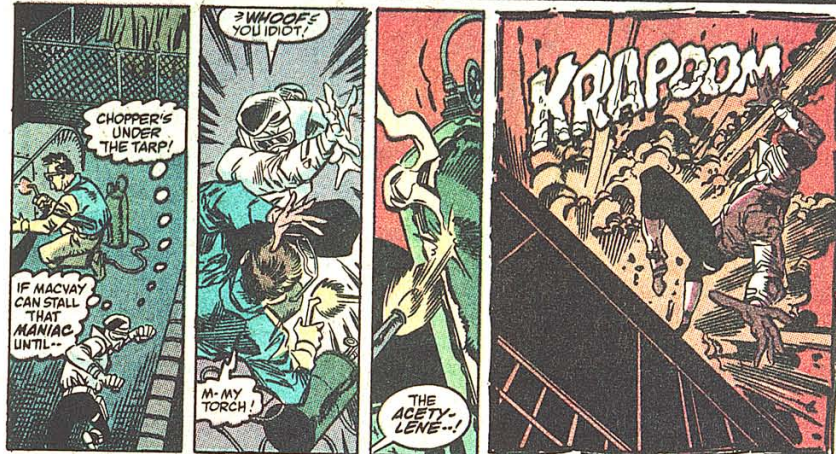
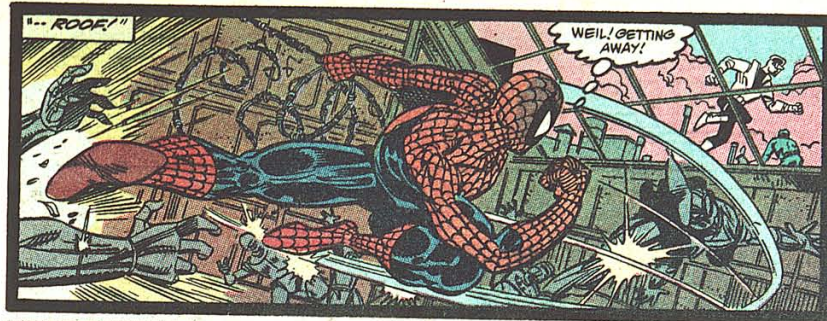
Editor on: *AKIRA*, *ALIEN LEGION*, *HAVOK* AND *WOLVERINE*, *ELSEWHERE PRINCE*, *STAR WARS*, *Moebius' BLUEBERRY Graphic Novels*, *ELEKTRA: ACT OF LOVE*
 Marvel freelance credits (past): *DOOFENDERS OF THE EARTH*,

WATER CLOSET, *AVENGERS*, *SOLO AVENGERS* STARRING *DR. DOPEY*, *DOCTOR ZERO*, *ST. GEORGE*, *POWERLINE*
 Marvel freelance credits (present): *CRITICAL MASS*
 My place of birth is: In the dark. The hospital I was born in lost their lights during a thunderstorm.

People who knew me in high school thought I was: One of the meanest people alive.
 My hobbies are: Circling want ads in the *New York Times*.
 My pet peeves are: I'm not allowed to have pets in my building.
 My favorite performers are: *Mike Rockwitz*, *Tiffany*, *Penn* and *Teller*.
 The last good book I read was: *The White Goddess* by *Robert Graves*.
 The last good movie I saw was: The trailers before *Pet Sematary*.
 If they were making a movie of my life, I'd like to see my part played by: *Lily Tomlin*, as suggested by *Adam Blaustein*.

My oddest habit is: Screaming at the top of my lungs, "It's comics, not brain surgery!"
 My greatest accomplishment outside the comics field is: Taunting *John Wellington* to go off the high water slide at Action Park.
 The reason I got into comics was: 1982.
 The biggest influences on my work include: *Stephen Hawkins*, the clock and space.
 The single work of which I am most proud is: That I finally filled out this stinking form for *Edna*.

My greatest unfulfilled ambition in the comics field is: I didn't realize I was in a field, oh yeah, look at the cow...
 The worst part of my job is: Why gosh! There's no one worst part of my job.
 When nobody's looking I like to: Dangle the Antioch intern out the 10th floor window by her ankles.
 The one thing I really want the world to know about me is: "They" were right in high school



STAR TREK V

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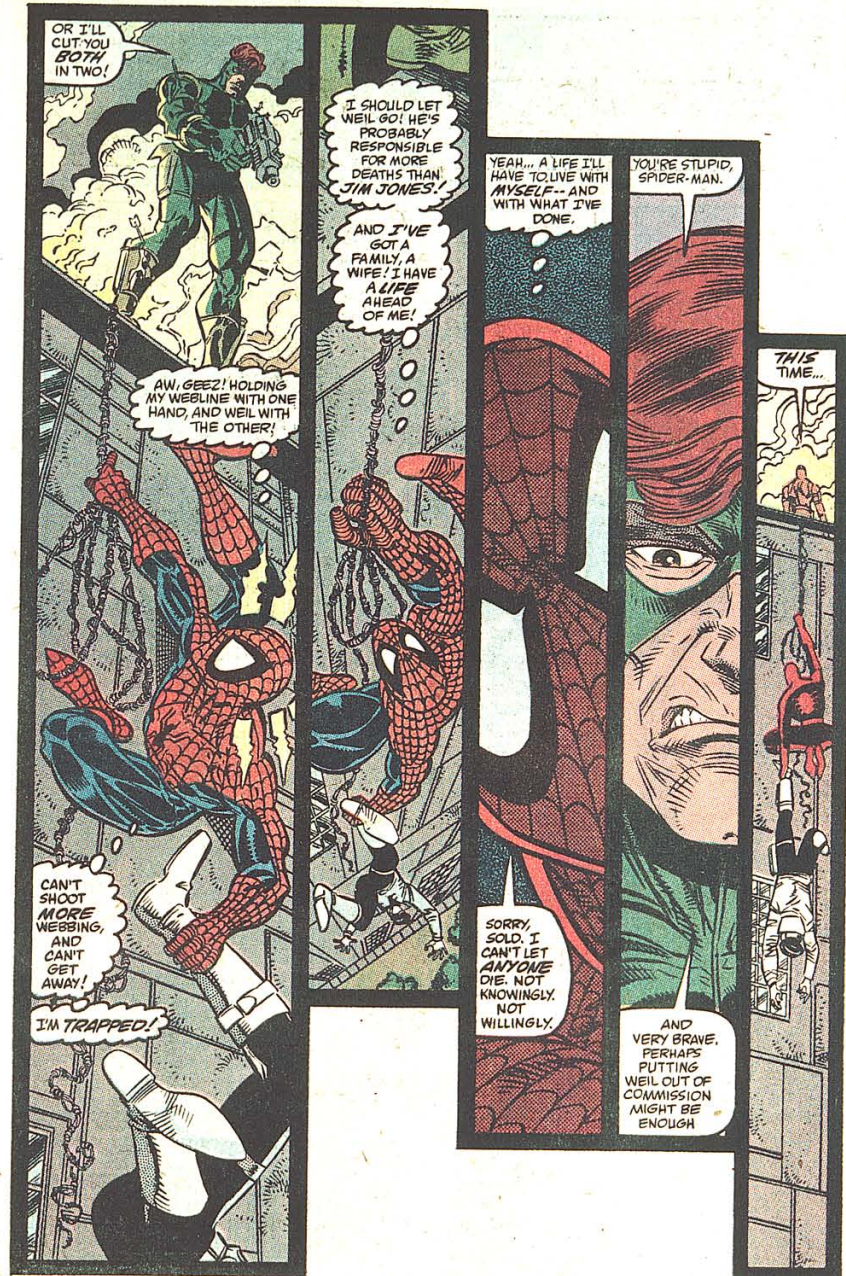
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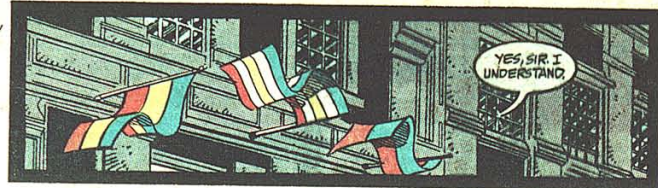
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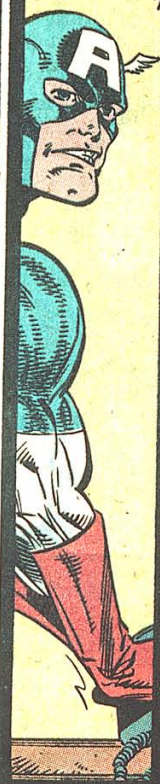


THE
SYNKARIAN
EMBASSY;
THE
NEXT
DAY.



NOT YET, I'M
AFRAID.

THEN
MAYBE
THERE'S
ANOTHER
WAY. I
MEAN,
WE'VE
LEARNED
AN
AWFUL
LOT--



--HOW 'BOUT WE GO
PUBLIC WITH WHAT WE
DO HAVE? MAYBE
THAT'LL BE ENOUGH
TO CALM THINGS
DOWN.

TOO LATE.



I'VE
JUST
BEEN
TOLD--

--THAT SYNKARIA HAS
FORMERLY BROKEN RELA-
TIONS WITH THE U.S. AND
RUMORS ARE SPREADING
OF DEATH SQUADS
SENT TO MURDER
AMERICAN OFFICIALS IN
RETRIBUTION FOR THE
PRIME MINISTER!



IF WE DON'T
GET DEFINITIVE
PROOF SOON,
BLOOD WILL FLOW, AND
WHOEVER IS BEHIND
THIS MADNESS, FOR
WHATEVER REASONS...
WILL HAVE WON!

NEXT

**TARGET:
WASHINGTON!**

30

WENDELL VAUGHN JUST WON THE COSMIC LOTTERY...

THE PRIZE: He's the
first human to be named
protector of the universe!

THE PROBLEM:
He's got a hand-
me-down
weapon to do
a hand-me-
down job ...
boy — does
he have his
hands full
now!!



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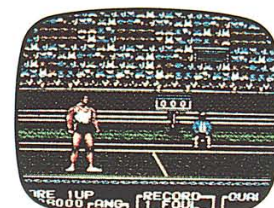
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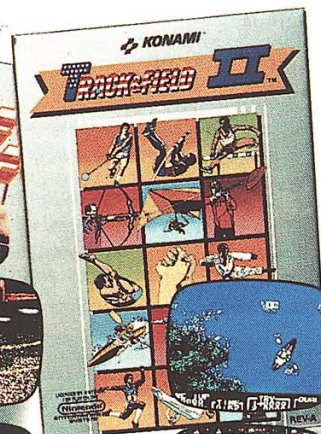
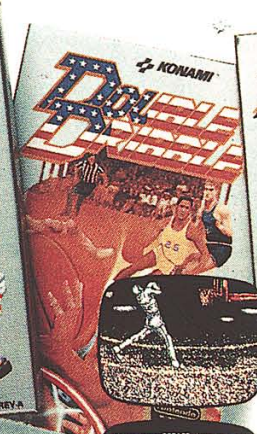
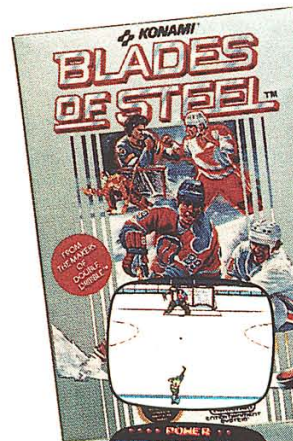
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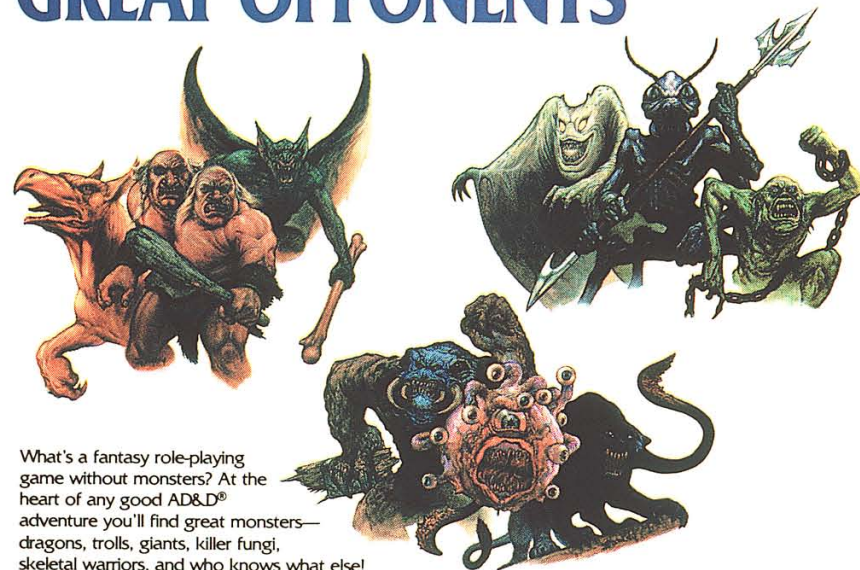
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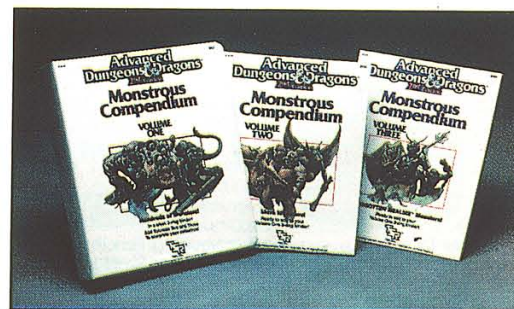
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